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THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable William M. Thomas  
House of Representatives  
2209 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

# Congressional

DUR OBC: 3-4-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND RETURN FOR DOCKET FILE ROOM 333

WILLIAM M. THOMAS  
21ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:  
WAYS AND MEANS  
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION



PKB  
92-235

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
CATHERINE M. ABERNATHY

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
4100 TRUXTON AVE. # 220  
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309  
(805) 327-3611

319 WEST MURRAY STREET  
VISALIA, CA 93291  
(209) 627-6549

2209 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0521  
(202) 225-2915

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC**  
February 17, 1993

819

Mr. Alfred C. Sikes  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

re: PR Docket No. 92-235

Dear Chairman Sikes:

Enclosed are letters from a number of my constituents who are concerned about the proposed rule regarding the frequencies in the 72-76 megahertz (MHz) band. As owners and operators of radio-controlled (R/C) models, they are very concerned that this proposal to diminish the number of usable frequencies will decrease the margin of safety as the remaining frequencies become increasingly congested.

I would appreciate your consideration of the concerns outlined in these letters, particularly the increased risk to persons and property that might result if this rule were adopted in its current form.

Best regards,

WILLIAM M. THOMAS  
Member of Congress

WMT/hss  
enclosure

Honorable Bill Thomas  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20515

97790

Dear Representative Thomas:

It is my pleasure to advise that the Federal Communications

January 29, 1993

The Honorable Bill Thomas  
2402 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

97789

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. The band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The FCC now wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower band widths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations.

Sir, many of our model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 40 pounds. -- These models themselves are expensive to build, but more importantly are capable of causing

[Date]

2-3-93

Honorable [ ]  
Address [ ]

97811

FEB 10 1993

Dear Mr./Ms. [ ] (if to Representative):  
Dear Senator THOMAS (if to Senator):

[Begin with a description of the writer's interest. E.g., "I am retired and derive many hours of enjoyment from constructing and operating radio-controlled model airplanes." Or, "I have been interested in aviation for as long as I can remember. I am very active in a local club whose members enjoy constructing and operating radio-controlled model airplanes. I personally own 5 radios, 5 R/C models and have a workshop full of other products necessary to operating my models."]

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R/C aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

When we operate our R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. It is a sizeable industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely,

John R. Price SR.

January 23, 1993

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FEB 11 1993

WASHINGTON, DC

The Honorable Bill Thomas  
2402 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20515

SUBJECT: NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235

Dear Congressman:

I am writing you to express my concern and to solicit your support in insuring the correct handling of a proposed FCC rule change. The changes in NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235 should be denied at this time.

Although the proposed change is quite technical, it would allow insertion of high power broadcast transmissions between frequencies currently allocated to radio controlled model hobbyists with only 2.5 KHz separation from them. The effect would be to eliminate an entire hobby, the industry supporting it, and the many jobs associated with it because the new transmissions would overwhelm exiting users and render their equipment useless.

There are hundreds of thousands of hobbyists using these frequencies who have invested millions of dollars in their equipment. Worse than this is the fact that it will force thousands of small businesses such as hobby shops, manufacturers of aircraft, car, and boat kits, and all the accessory parts and materials out of business. This is not an exaggeration. We are speaking of an entire industry involving thousands of jobs in small manufacturing companies, retail outlets and electronic repair businesses.

I am not opposed to technological progress. I am, however, against technological progress at the expense of an entire segment of society. I believe there is a solution. The docket should not be approved until technology has been developed that will allow interference-free transmissions which do not have an adverse affect upon exiting users.

You will certainly hear arguments by industry leaders such as General Electric and Motorola that this cannot be done. This has been said of every proposal from CAFE standards to toxic emissions; industry always solves the problem.

As to who should pay for the development, the answer is obvious. Those who benefit most, General Electric, Motorola, and the telephone companies. I trust that you will give this your earnest attention in the next few days, as the FCC has imposed a deadline of February 26, 1993 on comments. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

W. T. Alsobrook

Sgt. W. T. Alsobrook, USAR

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DAVID D. DAHL  
1217 WASHINGTON AVE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93308  
February 2, 1993 A.M.A. # 255867

Congressman Wm. M. Thomas  
2209 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Reference: Notice of Proposed FCC Rule Making PR Docket 92-235

Dear Congressman Thomas:

I derive many hours of enjoyment constructing and operating radio-controlled model helicopters and airplanes. I am also, active in a local club. I personally own 3 radios, 4 R/C models and have a workshop full of other products necessary in the operation of my models.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration

97816

January 23, 1993

HSS

97313

The Honorable Bill Thomas  
2402 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20515

SUBJECT: NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235

Dear Congressman:

*I am writing you to express my concern and to solicit your support in insuring the correct handling of a proposed FCC rule change. The changes in NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235 should be denied at this time.*

*Although the proposed change is quite technical, it would allow insertion of high power broadcast transmissions between frequencies currently allocated to radio controlled model hobbyists with only 2.5 KHz separation from them. The effect would be to eliminate an entire hobby, the industry supporting it, and the*

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FEB 17 1993

WASHINGTON, DC

Congressman Wm. M. Thomas  
2209 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

1108 Nord Road  
Bakersfield, California 93312  
February 9, 1993

Reference: Notice of Proposed FCC Rule Making PR Docket 92-235

Dear Congressman Thomas:

I derive many hours of enjoyment constructing and operating radio-controlled model helicopters and airplanes. I am also, active in a local club. I personally own 4 radios, 18 R/C models and have a workshop full of other products necessary in the operation of my models.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our-radio-controlled frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90

January 25, 1993

The Honorable William Thomas  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington D.C., 20510

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WASHINGTON, DC

I have been interested in aviation for some time now. To pursue my interests I took up the hobby of radio controlled model aircraft construction and flying. I belong to the local R/C modelers club and own several model aircraft and radios. Due to the expense of this hobby I have a substantial financial investment in model aircraft, kits, engines and tools.

I am very concerned about the proposed rule that is currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-controlled frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio controlled frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either of us interfering with each other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R/C aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

When we operate our R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of useable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

I don't think it is wise of the FCC to seek to expand the operation conditions of mobile radio users at the expense of the radio-control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radio, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. It is a sizeable industry that must be saved from these detrimental FCC actions. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to hundreds of thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72-76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely,

Jack R. Downen  
2821 Arnold St.  
Bakersfield, Ca  
93305

The Honorable William Thomas  
Rayburn House office Bldg #2402  
Washington D.C.

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